

What is claimed is:

1. A method of playing a video poker game, the method comprising:
 - offering a payable reflecting an ability of a player to receive two draws, the payable comprising ranks and respective payouts;
 - dealing a first five card hand to the player;
 - allowing the player to make a first selection comprising any number of cards from the first hand;
 - replacing cards in the first selection with newly dealt cards to form a second hand;
 - allowing the player to make a second selection comprising any number of cards from the second hand;
 - replacing cards in the second selection with newly dealt cards to form a final hand;
 - determining the rank of the final hand; and
 - paying the final hand according to the rank's respective payout using the payable.
2. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the first and second hands are not paid according to their rank.
3. A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:
 - before allowing the player to make a second selection, displaying cards that comprise the first selection.

4. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the payable returns an optimal return in an acceptable casino range, considering the player's ability to receive two draws

5. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the player places a bet before the first hand but does not bet to receive the second or final hand.

6. A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the player places a bet before the first hand but does not bet to receive the second or final hand.

7. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein:

$$R = \frac{\sum \text{payouts on the payable for all initial hands played using optimal strategy,}}{\text{number of initial hands}}$$

wherein R comprises a return in an acceptable casino range, wherein the optimal strategy considers an optimal way to select first discards and second discards.

8. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein:

$$R = \frac{\sum \text{payouts on the payable for all initial hands played using optimal strategy,}}{\text{number of initial hands}}$$

wherein R comprises a return in an acceptable casino range, wherein the optimal strategy for an initial hand is a best result of all possible initial replacement cards and then all possible final replacement cards.

9. A method as recited in claim 6, wherein:

$$R = \frac{\sum \text{payouts on the payable for all initial hands played using optimal strategy,}}{\text{number of initial hands}}$$

wherein R comprises a return in an acceptable casino range, wherein the optimal strategy considers an optimal way to select first discards and second discards.

10. A method as recited in claim 6, wherein:

$$R = \frac{\sum \text{payouts on the payable for all initial hands played using optimal strategy,}}{\text{number of initial hands}}$$

wherein R comprises a return in an acceptable casino range, wherein the optimal strategy for an initial hand is a best result of all possible initial replacement cards and then all possible final replacement cards.

11. A method as recited in claim 7, wherein R ranges from 94% - 104%.

12. A method as recited in claim 7, wherein R ranges from 94%-95%.

13. A method as recited in claim 7, wherein R ranges from 95%-96%.

14. A method as recited in claim 7, wherein R ranges from 96%-97%.

15. A method as recited in claim 7, wherein R ranges from 97%-98%.

16. A method as recited in claim 7, wherein R ranges from 98%-99%.

17. A method as recited in claim 7, wherein R ranges from 99%-100%.
18. A method as recited in claim 7, wherein R ranges from 100%-101%.
19. A method as recited in claim 7, wherein R ranges from 102%-103%.
20. A method as recited in claim 7, wherein R ranges from 103%-104%.
21. A method as recited in claim 8, wherein R ranges from 94% - 104%.
22. A method as recited in claim 8, wherein R ranges from 94%-95%.
23. A method as recited in claim 8, wherein R ranges from 95%-96%.
24. A method as recited in claim 8, wherein R ranges from 96%-97%.
25. A method as recited in claim 8, wherein R ranges from 97%-98%.
26. A method as recited in claim 8, wherein R ranges from 98%-99%.
27. A method as recited in claim 8, wherein R ranges from 99%-100%.

28. A method as recited in claim 8, wherein R ranges from 100%-101%.
29. A method as recited in claim 8, wherein R ranges from 102%-103%.
30. A method as recited in claim 8, wherein R ranges from 103%-104%.
31. A method as recited in claim 9, wherein R ranges from 94% - 104%.
32. A method as recited in claim 9, wherein R ranges from 94%-95%.
33. A method as recited in claim 9, wherein R ranges from 95%-96%.
34. A method as recited in claim 9, wherein R ranges from 96%-97%.
35. A method as recited in claim 9, wherein R ranges from 97%-98%.
36. A method as recited in claim 9, wherein R ranges from 98%-99%.
37. A method as recited in claim 9, wherein R ranges from 99%-100%.
38. A method as recited in claim 9, wherein R ranges from 100%-101%.
39. A method as recited in claim 9, wherein R ranges from 102%-103%.

40. A method as recited in claim 9, wherein R ranges from 103%-104%.
41. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein R ranges from 94% - 104%.
42. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein R ranges from 94%-95%.
43. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein R ranges from 95%-96%.
44. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein R ranges from 96%-97%.
45. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein R ranges from 97%-98%.
46. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein R ranges from 98%-99%.
47. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein R ranges from 99%-100%.
48. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein R ranges from 100%-101%.
49. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein R ranges from 102%-103%.
50. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein R ranges from 103%-104%.

51. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the paytable is computed by:

approximating or calculating exactly the result of:

dealing all possible first hands;

cycling through all 32 possible ways to discard the first hands;

cycling through all ways to replace first discards, creating second hands;

cycling through all 32 possible ways to discard the second hands;

cycling through all ways to replace second discards creating final hands;

storing a highest of the final hands' respective payouts;

setting payouts for respective ranks such that the sum of each highest final hand's respective payout divided by a number of hands comprises a return in an acceptable casino range.

52. A method of playing a video poker game, the method comprising:

dealing a first five card hand to the player;

allowing the player to make a first selection comprising any number of cards from the first hand;

replacing the cards from the first selection with newly dealt cards to form a second hand; and

if the second hand meets a predefined condition, allowing the player to make a second selection comprising a card or cards from the second hand and replacing the

selected card or cards from the second selection with newly dealt cards to form a final hand.

53. A method as recited in claim 52, further comprising determined a rank of the final hand.

54. A method as recited in claim 53, further comprising using a payable to determine a payout of the rank of the final hand.

55. A method as recited in claim 52, wherein the predefined condition comprises whether the second hand comprises a four to a royal hand.

56. A method as recited in claim 52, wherein the predefined condition comprises whether the hand comprises a four to a royal hand or four to a straight flush hand.

57. A method as recited in claim 52, wherein the predefined condition comprises whether the second hand comprises a nonpaying hand.

58. A computer readable storage medium controlling a computer by performing:
 offering a payable reflecting an ability of a player to receive two draws, the
payable comprising ranks and respective payouts;
 dealing a first five card hand to the player;

allowing the player to make a first selection comprising any number of cards from the first hand;

replacing cards in the first selection with newly dealt cards to form a second hand;

allowing the player to make a second selection comprising any number of cards from the second hand;

replacing cards in the second selection with newly dealt cards to form a final hand;

determining the rank of the final hand; and

paying the final hand according to the rank's respective payout using the payable.

59. A computer readable storage medium controlling a computer to perform:

dealing a first five card hand to the player;

allowing the player to make a first selection comprising any number of cards from the first hand;

replacing the cards from the first selection with newly dealt cards to form a second hand; and

if the second hand meets a predefined condition, allowing the player to make a second selection comprising a card or cards from the second hand and replacing the selected card or cards from the second selection with newly dealt cards to form a final hand.

60. An apparatus, comprising:

A processing unit:

offering a payable reflecting an ability of a player to receive two draws,
the payable comprising ranks and respective payouts;
dealing a first five card hand to the player;
allowing the player to make a first selection comprising any number of
cards from the first hand;
replacing cards in the first selection with newly dealt cards to form a
second hand;
allowing the player to make a second selection comprising any number of
cards from the second hand;
replacing cards in the second selection with newly dealt cards to form a
final hand;
determining the rank of the final hand; and
a payout unit:
paying the final hand according to the rank's respective payout using the
paytable.

61. An apparatus, comprising:

a processing unit performing:
dealing a first five card hand to the player;
allowing the player to make a first selection comprising any number of
cards from the first hand;
replacing the cards from the first selection with newly dealt cards to form
a second hand; and

a second draw unit performing:

if the second hand meets a predefined condition, allowing the player to make a second selection comprising a card or cards from the second hand and replacing the selected card or cards from the second selection with newly dealt cards to form a final hand.